

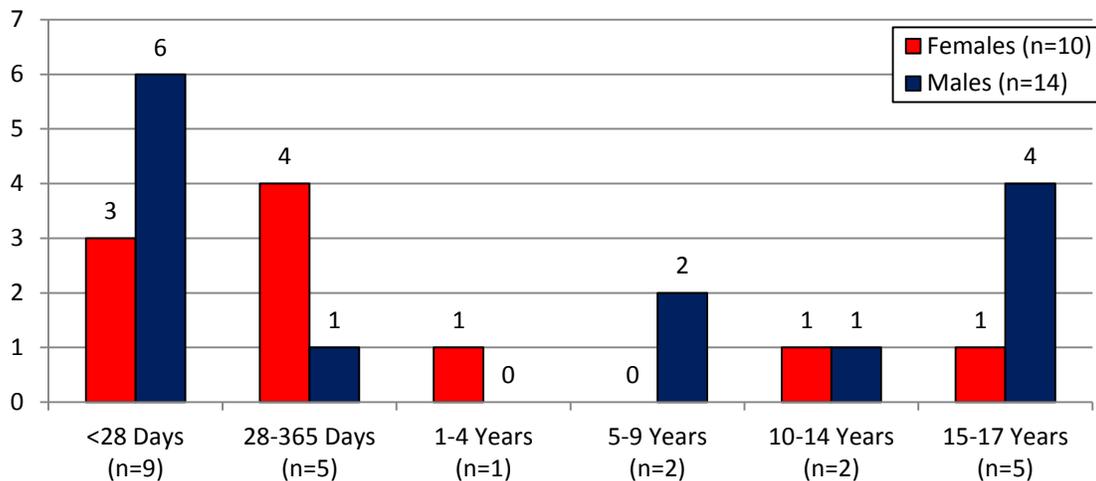


2010 CHILD FATALITY REVIEW FOR LA PAZ AND MOHAVE COUNTIES

DEMOGRAPHICS

This report provides information on the deaths of children who were residents of either La Paz or Mohave Counties. During 2010, there were 24 deaths among children younger than 18 years of age in the counties of La Paz (n=2) and Mohave (n=22). Males accounted for 58 percent of child deaths in these counties (n=14) and females accounted for 42 percent (n=10). Figure 1 shows deaths among children by sex and age group.

Figure 1. Deaths Among Children by Sex and Age Group, La Paz and Mohave Counties, Arizona 2010 (n=24)

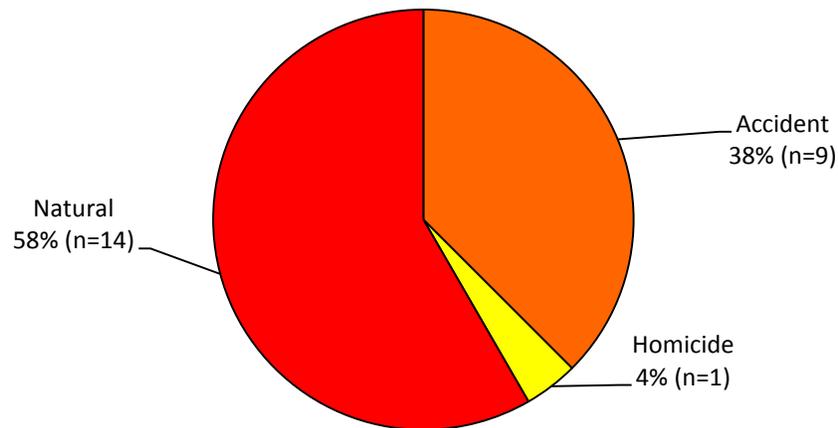


Deaths among American Indian children were over-represented in La Paz and Mohave Counties in 2010. American Indian children comprised five percent of the population but 12 percent of the deaths (n=3). White, Non-Hispanic children comprised 63 percent of the population and 67 percent of the fatalities (n=16). Hispanic children comprised 26 percent of the population and 21 percent of the fatalities (n=5).

CAUSE AND MANNER OF CHILD FATALITIES

Fifty-eight percent of deaths were due to natural manners (n=14), four percent were due to homicides (n=1), and 38 percent were due to accidents (n=9). There were no suicides or deaths of undetermined manner among children of these counties during 2010. Figure 2 shows deaths among children by manner.

Figure 2. Deaths Among Children by Manner, La Paz and Mohave Counties, Arizona 2010 (n=24)



Two children died in motor vehicle crashes, and two deaths were due to poisoning. All twelve of the deaths determined to have been natural were the result of medical causes, two additional deaths were due to prematurity, and one was due to exposure. Table 1 shows deaths among children by cause and manner.

Cause	Natural	Accident	Homicide	Total
Medical*	12	0	0	12
Prematurity	2	0	0	2
Motor vehicle crash	0	2	0	2
Suffocation	0	1	0	1
Poisoning	0	2	0	2
Fire/Burn	0	4	0	4
Exposure	0	0	1	1
Total	14	9	1	24

*Excluded Prematurity and SIDS

Among the two motor vehicle crash deaths, one child was a driver and one child was a pedestrian.

PREVENTABILITY

Child Fatality Review Teams consider a child's death preventable if something could have been done (by an individual such as the caregiver or supervisor, or by the community as a whole) that would have prevented the death. The Local Child Fatality Review Team determined that 50 percent of the deaths among La Paz County and Mohave County children could have been prevented (n=12).

During the review of each child's death, teams identify factors believed to have contributed to the death. Although the presence of a contributing factor typically led to the determination that a death was preventable, this was not always the case. For example, the team might have concluded that an unsafe sleep environment (e.g. infant left sleeping on a couch) was a contributing factor in an unexpected infant death. However, the team may not have had sufficient information (e.g. autopsy report, adequate scene investigation) to determine if the death could have been prevented.

In La Paz and Mohave Counties, use of drugs and/or alcohol was a contributing factor for eight child deaths (33 percent), and lack of supervision was a contributing factor for four deaths (17 percent). Lack of motor vehicle restraint and motor vehicle speed each accounted for one death (four percent each). More than one factor may have been identified for each death. Table 2 shows the most common factors contributing to the deaths of child residents of La Paz and Mohave Counties.

Factor*	Number	Percent
Substance use	8	33%
Lack of supervision	4	17%
Motor vehicle speed	1	4%
Lack of motor vehicle restraint	1	4%
*More than one factor may have been identified for each death		

CHILD FATALITIES IN LA PAZ AND MOHAVE COUNTIES COMPARED TO OTHER ARIZONA COUNTIES

This section provides comparisons between the deaths of children who resided in La Paz and Mohave Counties and the deaths of children who resided in the remaining 13 Arizona counties. During 2010, 24 children who were residents of La Paz or Mohave Counties died, and 817 children died who were residents of the other 13 counties. La Paz and Mohave Counties had a crude rate of 53.4 child deaths per 100,000 residents, a slightly higher rate than the remainder of the state. (51.6 deaths per 100,000 residents).

La Paz and Mohave Counties had a larger percentage of preventable deaths than the remaining counties. Fifty percent of the deaths of La Paz County and Mohave County

children could have been prevented (n=12), compared to one-third of child deaths in the remaining counties (33 percent, n=267).

Medical conditions were the leading cause of child deaths in La Paz and Mohave Counties (50 percent) and for the remainder of Arizona (42 percent). Fire/Burn accounted for 17 percent of child deaths in La Paz and Mohave Counties but less than one percent for the remaining counties. Prematurity accounted for eight percent of deaths in La Paz and Mohave Counties and 23 percent for the rest of Arizona. Motor vehicle crashes accounted for eight percent of deaths in La Paz and Mohave Counties but only seven percent in the remaining counties. Poisoning accounted for eight percent of the child deaths in La Paz and Mohave Counties and only two percent for the remaining counties. Table 3 shows the leading causes of child deaths for La Paz and Mohave Counties compared to the rest of Arizona.

Table 3. Leading Causes of Child Deaths, La Paz and Mohave Counties, Arizona 2010			
La Paz and Mohave Counties (n=24)		Arizona, Excluding La Paz and Mohave Counties (n=817)	
Cause	Percent of Deaths	Cause	Percent of Deaths
Medical	50%	Medical	42%
Fire/Burn	17%	Fire/Burn	<1%
Prematurity	8%	Prematurity	23%
Motor Vehicle	8%	Motor Vehicle	7%
Poisoning	8%	Poisoning	2%

In La Paz and Mohave Counties, the second largest percentage of deaths was due to accidents (38 percent), a significantly higher percentage than the rest of Arizona (17 percent). There was a lower percentage of natural deaths in La Paz and Mohave Counties (58 percent), compared to the rest of the state (66 percent). Four percent of the child deaths in La Paz and Mohave Counties were due to homicides, the same as the remainder of Arizona. Table 4 shows deaths among children by manner for La Paz and Mohave Counties compared to the rest of Arizona.

Table 4. Deaths Among Children by Manner, La Paz and Mohave Counties, Arizona 2010			
La Paz and Mohave Counties (n=24)		Arizona, Excluding La Paz and Mohave Counties (n=817)	
Manner	Percent of Deaths	Manner	Percent of Deaths
Natural	58%	Natural	66%
Accident	38%	Accident	17%
Suicide	0%	Suicide	3%
Homicide	4%	Homicide	4%
Undetermined	0%	Undetermined	9%
Unknown	0%	Unknown	<1%